

## Message Text

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64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 036845

R 081435Z OCT 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6566  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T BEIRUT 12545

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, LE, US, FR  
SUBJ: LEBANESE INTERNAL SITUATION

REF (A) STATE 239610 AND (B) 239611 (NOTAL)

1. REFTELS ARE MOST HELPFUL. IT IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE  
AT THIS TIME TO PUT THE BLAME ON ANY SINGLE PROTAGONIST.  
I NEVERTHELESS CANNOT HELP BUT BELIEVE THAT THE PHALANGE  
BEARS MORE THAN IT S SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
FIGHTING. I THEREFORE HEARTELY WELCOME PARA 3 REF A.  
WHILE FRENCH DEMARCHE TO PHALANGE WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE,  
WE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT FORGET THAT THE USG STILL HAS  
THE GREATEST INFLUENCE, PARTICULARLY IN PHALANGE QUARTERS.  
IF FRENCH CAN BE PERSUADED TO TAKE SUCH ACTION, I WOULD  
RECOMMEND THAT WE AT LEAST INDICATED TO PHALANGE OUR  
CONCURRENCE.

2. IN CONNECTION FOREGOING, BUT PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF  
REFTELS, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND I HAD LONG DISCUSSION  
WITH JUMBLATT'S DEPUTY ABBAS KHALAF, FORMER MINISTER  
OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, EMPLOYEE FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS  
OF AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, WHO HAS BEEN  
WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THIS MISSION FOR SOME TIME.  
HE IS OF COURSE BITTERLY ANTI-PHALANGE. HE STRONGLY  
RECOMMENDED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TAKE A POSITION VIA-A-VIS  
PHALANGE. WE DEMURRED ON TAKING A POSITION AGAINST ANY-

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ONE. HE THEN DISCUSSED OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES HELPING

AND HE SPOKE AT LENGTH ABOUT SAUDIS AND EGYPTIANS.  
(HE SAID SAUDI SHOULD LEAN ON FRANGIE AS WELL AS PHALANGE.)  
I CONCURRED RE SAUDIS BUT SAID I THOUGHT THAT THE  
EGYPTIANS' PRESENT POSITION VIA-A-VIS SYRIA AND PLO  
WAS SUCH THAT SADAT'S INTERVENTION MIGHT BE COUNTER-  
PRODUCTIVE. KHALAF SUMMARILY DISMISSED MY VIEWS, SAYING  
SADAT'S EGYPT WAS STILL THE BIG BROTHER OF THIS PART  
OF THE WORLD AND THAT ASAD'S AND ARAFAT'S PIQUE WAS  
MOMENTARILY POLITICAL EXPEDIENT.

3. VIEW JUMBLATT'S ASSOCIATION WITH SYRIANS AND PLO,  
BELIEVE KHALAF'S OPINION MERITS CONSIDERATION AND THAT  
CAIRO MIGHT BE ADDED TO DISTRIBUTION DEPTTEL 23911.  
GODLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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